

CONSTITUTION AND CANONS



DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA

1921

CONSTITUTION AND CANONS
OF THE
DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA
TOGETHER WITH THE
RULES OF ORDER

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CONVENTION

1921



Constitution

ARTICLE I.

The Church in the Diocese of North Carolina accedes to and adopts the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, as set forth in General Convention thereof, and acknowledges its authority accordingly.

ARTICLE II.

SECTION 1. There shall be an Annual Convention of the Church in this Diocese at such time and place as may be determined by the next preceding Convention, or, in the event of no such determination, on the last Wednesday in May, at such place as may be agreed upon by the Bishop and Standing Committee.

SEC. 2. But the time or place of such meeting may be changed, or special Conventions called, by the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, subject, nevertheless, to such canonical provisions as may hereafter be made:

SEC. 3. *Provided*, that no special Convention shall be called without at least sixty days' notice, which notice shall be published for at least one month in three different newspapers of the State, and shall specify the business and purpose for which said special Convention is to be called, and upon that alone it shall act.

ARTICLE III.

SECTION 1. The Convention shall be composed of the two orders, Clerical and Lay.

SEC. 2. The Bishop of the Diocese, or in his absence, the Bishop Coadjutor, or any Bishop in charge, as representing the Ecclesiastical Authority, shall, in the order named above, if present, preside at all meetings of the Convention, and shall appoint all Committees unless it be otherwise ordered.

SEC. 3. Every Clergyman of the Church having been canonically connected with the Diocese, as well as having been a resident therein for six calendar months before any meeting of the Convention, either as a Clergyman or as a Candidate for

orders, shall be entitled to a seat and vote in the same: *Provided*, That the restriction of residence as above required, shall not apply to professors, tutors or students in the General Theological Seminary, or in any university or college maintained and governed in part by the Diocese, or to officers of the General Missionary Board of the Church, or to Chaplains in the army and navy.

SEC. 4. Each regularly organized Parish in union with the Convention shall be entitled to be represented at its sessions by one or more delegates, not exceeding four, to be chosen by the Vestry from among the male communicants of said Parish: *Provided*, that in case there shall be no male communicants in said Parish, the Vestry shall have power to elect one or more delegates, qualified as above, from any other Parish or Parishes of the Diocese. And each Vestry shall be entitled to elect, in addition, four *alternate* delegates, subject to the same qualifications, who shall be authorized, in the order of their election, to fill any vacancy that may occur in the delegation originally chosen: *Provided*, that no person, clerical or lay, under Ecclesiastical censure, publicly declared by a competent tribunal, shall be admissible to a seat in the Convention: *Provided, further*, that no person shall be allowed to represent more than one Parish in the same Convention.

SEC. 5. Each regularly organized Mission in union with the Convention, and having not less than ten adult communicants, shall be entitled to be represented at the sessions of the Convention by one delegate, to be elected by the congregation from among the adult male communicants of the Mission, subject to the conditions and limitations of the preceding section.

SEC. 6. If any Parish or Mission shall neglect or decline to appoint delegates, or if any of those appointed shall neglect or be prevented from attending, such Parish or Mission shall, nevertheless, be bound by the acts of the Convention.

ARTICLE IV.

SECTION 1. The Convention shall be the sole judge of the election of its own members. It shall have power to adopt rules of order for its own government, elect officers and raise funds, and shall also have such other legislative powers as may be necessary and proper for the well-being of the Diocese.

SEC. 2. The Convention shall have no power to pass any Canon

infringing the Episcopal Authority, or affecting the spiritual condition of the Diocese, against the express dissent of the Bishop: *Provided*, that said dissent shall be expressed at that or the ensuing Annual Convention.

SEC. 3. But this shall not prevent the Convention from offering, independently of the Bishop, resolutions of advice or inquiry, or from any proceedings necessary for the purpose of impeachment.

ARTICLE V.

To constitute a quorum for the purpose of ordinary business, the presence of one-third of all the Clergy entitled to vote, and of delegates from ten Parishes entitled to representation in the Convention, shall be necessary. Any less number shall be competent to receive reports and to adjourn.

ARTICLE VI.

SECTION 1. Upon any question before the Convention, when it may be required by any one Clerical member, or by the delegation present of any one Parish, the two orders shall vote separately. And in all cases of a vote by orders, each Clerical member shall be entitled to one vote, and each Parish shall also be entitled to one vote, and a concurrence of majorities of both orders shall be necessary to a decision. When no such division is called for, each member of the Convention shall be entitled to one vote,

SEC. 2. All elections shall be by ballot, unless otherwise unanimously ordered.

ARTICLE VII.

SECTION 1. The Convention shall annually elect a Secretary and a Treasurer.

SEC. 2. Should there at any time be no such election, then the officers *last* before elected shall hold over till such election shall be had.

SEC. 3. Should the office of Secretary or that of Treasurer become vacant, by death or otherwise, at any time preceding the annual election, the Ecclesiastical Authority shall be empowered to appoint some person to fill the vacancy till such time as an election shall be had, who shall be competent to all the powers and duties of the office as if regularly elected thereto.

ARTICLE VIII.

SECTION 1. A Standing Committee or Council of Advice to the Bishop, of not less than five persons, shall be annually elected by the Convention. A majority of said committee shall at all times be Clergymen of the Diocese, and no layman not a communicant shall be a member thereof.

SEC. 2. The Committee shall have power to fill any vacancy that may occur in their own body between the annual meetings of the Convention.

SEC. 3. When there is no Bishop, the Standing Committee shall be the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, and as such, may invite the temporary services of other Bishops, and, for due cause, may change the time or place of the annual meetings of the Convention. They may also summon special Conventions when there is no Bishop, and shall do so upon the call of one-third of the Clergy of the Diocese, or of one-third of the Parishes in union with the Convention, as appearing upon the lists of the Journal last before published. And although there be a Bishop, the Standing Committee shall have power to call special Conventions for the purpose of proceedings relative to his impeachment, and shall do so upon a similar requisition by the Clergy or Laity.

ARTICLE IX.

SECTION 1. Any ten or more adults may organize themselves into a Parish, and be received into union with the Convention, by taking such steps as may be provided for by Canon. And the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese may organize Missions in such manner as shall be provided by Canon, in any part of the Diocese not included within the limits of an organized Parish in union with the Convention.

SEC. 2. *Provided*, that it shall always be competent to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, with the consent in writing of the Rector of any Parish, a copy of which consent shall be filed with the Registrar of the Diocese, to establish within the limits of said Parish independent missionary congregations, whose ministers shall be independent of the Rector and responsible only to the Ecclesiastical Authority aforesaid: *Provided, furthermore*, if the consent of the Rector be denied, an appeal may be taken to the

Bishop, whose decision, if by the advice and consent of the Standing Committee, shall be final.

SEC. 3. In all Parochial elections none shall be entitled to vote but males of the age of twenty-one years, members of the Parish, who shall have subscribed a declaration in the following words, viz.:

“We, the undersigned, do hereby consent to be governed by the Constitution and Canons of the Church, as set forth in General Convention, and by the Constitution and Canons of the Church in this Diocese”: *Provided*, that this section shall not be taken to infringe upon the existing customs of any already organized Parish. *Provided further*, that any Parish may by vote of a majority of the voters, as at present qualified, permit all members of the Parish of the age of twenty-one years, who shall have subscribed to the above declaration, to vote in parochial elections.

SEC. 4. Any Parish ceasing to be represented in the Convention for two successive years, or any Parish resisting the authority of the Convention, may be suspended from the right of representation, or its connection with the Convention be dissolved, by a vote of a majority of all the Clergy present and entitled to vote, and a majority of delegates from at least twenty Parishes. But such suspension or dissolution shall never take place without previous inquiry by a committee appointed for the purpose, and a report upon the facts of the case; nor until after thirty days’ notice to the Rector or Vestry, or in case there be none, then to some member of the Parish in default.

SEC. 5. Any Parish which receives aid from the Mission funds of the Diocese and does not, for two consecutive years, pay its proportion of the salary of the minister serving it, shall be deprived of the right to vote in the Convention until such arrears be paid or remitted by the Convention.

SEC. 6. Any Parish or Mission which shall fail for three consecutive years to pay its assessments for the Episcopal and Contingent Fund, or shall have failed to observe the conditions of Canon XXX, Section 6, on the Church Pension Fund, shall be deprived of the right to vote in the Convention until such arrears be paid or remitted by the Convention.

ARTICLE X.

SECTION 1. Any Presbyterian regularly called to the charge of a

Parish and entering thereupon, shall, during the time of such charge, be held to be the Rector of said Parish.

SEC. 2. The Rector is recognized as having, by virtue of his office, the exclusive regulation, under his canonical superiors, of all the spiritual concerns of the Parish; as being entitled at all times to have access to the church building, and to open the same for the services or instruction of this Church, as he may deem proper; to call meetings of the Vestry or congregation; when present, to preside in the same, and, in case of a tie, to give the casting vote.

ARTICLE XI.

The Convention shall pass Canons for the trial of Clergymen.

ARTICLE XII.

SECTION 1. When a Bishop is to be elected, the Convention shall vote by ballot and by orders; and a concurrence of a majority of all the Clergy entitled to vote in the Convention, and of the delegates from at least twenty Parishes in union with the Convention (the said delegates voting by Parishes), shall be necessary to an election.

ARTICLE XIII.

No new Canon shall be passed, nor shall any existing Canon be amended, upon the day upon which said new Canon or amendment may be proposed, without unanimous consent. Nor, without a similar consent, shall the question upon such Canon or amendment be finally put without previous reference to a committee.

ARTICLE XIV.

SECTION 1. This Constitution shall not be altered or amended without—

First. A concurrent vote of a majority of both orders present at one Annual Convention proposing said alteration.

Second. The adoption of the proposed alteration or amendment, at the next ensuing Annual Convention, by a majority of all the Clergy present and entitled to vote, and a majority of the delegates from at least twenty Parishes entitled to seats in said Convention, the said delegates voting by Parishes.

SEC. 2. *Provided*, That the consideration of the proposed amendment may always be postponed to the next Annual Convention by a vote of two-thirds of both orders present.

ARTICLE XV.

All Constitutional enactments shall take effect from and after the adjournment of the Convention at which they shall have been ratified.

Canons

CANON I.

Change of Time or Place of Meeting of Convention.

Whenever the prevalence of an epidemic or contagious disease or other sufficient cause, shall render it necessary, the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese may change the place and time of meeting of the Diocesan Convention.

CANON II.

List of Members of Convention.

SECTION 1.—*Clergy*.—It shall be the duty of the Secretary, before the opening of the Annual Convention, to apply to the Ecclesiastical Authority for a correct list of the Clergy entitled to seats. Such list shall be *prima Facie* evidence of said title, and from it the Secretary shall prepare the roll for the purpose of organization.

SEC. 2.—*Laity*.—The Secretaries of the several Parish Vestries, and the clerks of organized Missions, electing lay delegates to the Convention, shall furnish three certificates of said election, whereof one shall be handed to the delegates elect, one shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the Convention, and one to the minister of the Parish where the Convention is to be held, the latter two to be mailed at least four weeks before the time appointed for the opening of the session. From these certificates the Secretary shall prepare a list of lay delegates, to be called at the opening of the Convention; nor shall he insert any name upon the roll without the evidence of one of said certificates, unless specially directed to do so by the Convention. Defective or doubtful certificates shall be laid aside, to be acted upon after the Convention shall have organized.

CANON III.

Services.

At the opening of the Convention, divine service shall be celebrated and the Holy Communion administered, and a sermon

shall be preached by some Clergyman appointed for the purpose by the Ecclesiastical Authority.

CANON IV.

Rules of Order.

The Convention shall adopt Rules of Order, which shall continue in force till altered.

CANON V.

Chairman of the Convention.

In the absence of the Bishop of the Diocese and of any other Bishop qualified by the provisions of the Constitution to preside, the President of the Standing Committee, as representing the Ecclesiastical Authority, shall act as Chairman of the Convention, unless the Convention itself shall otherwise provide.

CANON VI.

Secretary.

The Secretary shall issue the prescribed notices of the annual meetings of the Convention, and in case of special meetings of the same, or of a change in the time or place of the regular meeting, shall, under the direction of the Ecclesiastical Authority, issue notices thereof. He shall prepare the canonical lists of the Clergy and lay delegates entitled to seats therein. In the absence of both Bishop and President of the Standing Committee, he shall call the Convention to order for the purpose of organization. He shall keep a record of its proceedings, under its direction, in a suitable book to be kept for the purpose; shall prepare and issue its journals, and shall preserve thirty copies of the Journal for the use of the members of the next ensuing Convention; shall preserve and have ready for reference all papers belonging to the same, not specially given into other hands; and shall also be the Registrar of the Diocese. The Treasurer is hereby directed to pay out of the funds of the Diocese, on the written application of the Secretary, the expenses necessarily incurred by the latter, from time to time, in discharging the duties prescribed by this Canon.

CANON VII.

Treasurer.

SECTION 1. The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds or moneys belonging to the Diocese; shall, under the direction of the Convention, receive, invest and disburse the same, and shall keep and return an account thereof to each annual meeting; and shall also report annually a complete list of all securities belonging to the Diocese. He shall give bond for the faithful discharge of his duties, in such sum as the Convention of the Diocese may from time to time designate, such bond to be approved by the Committee on Finance and to be deposited with the Trustees of the Diocese.

SEC. 2. He shall deposit the bonds and other securities in his hands in a place of safety to be designated by the Trustees of the Diocese.

CANON VIII.

Committees.

SECTION 1. There shall be annually appointed by the Bishop, or in his absence by the Presiding Officer of the Convention, a Committee on Canons, a Committee on the State of the Church, and a Committee on Theological Education, each to consist of three Clergymen and two Laymen; also a Committee on Finance, a Committee on Elections, a Committee on New Parishes, and a Committee on Unfinished Business, each to consist of two Clergymen and three Laymen.

SEC. 2.—*Standing Committee.*—The Standing Committee shall elect a President and Secretary from their own body. They shall assemble upon the call of their President whenever he may deem it necessary. He shall also summon them whenever required to do so by the Bishop, or by any three members of the Committee. In the event of a vacancy in the Episcopate, the President shall call a meeting within thirty days after knowledge of the fact. The Standing Committee shall hold meetings for the transaction of business on the third Tuesday preceding the stated times of ordination, and at each Convention: *Provided*, that the Committee shall not be required to meet except upon notice by the President. They shall also report to the annual meetings of the Convention the transactions of the preceding year. A record of all their

official acts shall be kept by their Secretary, which shall always be open to the inspection of the Bishop and of the Convention.

SEC. 3.—*Committee on Theological Education.*—The Committee on Education shall have charge of the Diocesan Theological Education Fund, with power, in the absence of express provisions to the contrary, to invest or appropriate the same as may seem to them best. They shall be empowered to draw upon the Treasurer of the Diocese for all such funds in his hands, and the order of their Chairman shall be his warrant. They shall receive, consider and act upon all application for aid in behalf of young men desirous to enter the Ministry of the Church. They are hereby directed to seek out such cases, and, if need be, bring them to the notice of the Church in any way that may seem best. They shall report annually to the Convention their transactions of the preceding year, and the condition of the fund under their control, and shall make such recommendations for the future as may seem to them good.

SEC. 4.—*Committee on Canons.*—The Committee on Canons shall receive, consider and present to the Convention all motions or resolutions pertaining to the Constitution, Canons, and Rules of Order, and are competent to originate any new matter touching these subjects, that they shall see proper. The Committee on Canons may report to the Convention at which they are appointed, or on the morning of the second day of the next succeeding Convention.

SEC. 5.—*Committee on the State of the Church.*—It shall be the duty of the Committee on the State of the Church, from such materials as may be placed before them, to report to the Convention at some time during its session, the condition of the Diocese, with such particular statements, or such recommendations, as may seem to them desirable.

SEC. 6.—*Committee on Finance.*—The Committee on Finance shall have power to report a scale of assessments for the purpose of raising funds required for Diocesan purposes; they may receive applications for the alteration of the said scale, and shall have power to modify the same for the current year, reporting all such applications and their action thereon to the Convention. They shall report to each Convention the general condition of the several funds of the Diocese, with such deficits in the assessments

as may be discoverable. They may make such recommendations as may seem to them desirable, and shall act upon all other matters relative to Diocesan property committed to them by the Convention. They shall also from time to time, give directions to the Treasurer in regard to the investment of the permanent and unappropriated funds of the Diocese in his hands.

It shall be the duty of the Finance Committee to maintain general supervision of the financial affairs of the Diocese; to secure simplicity and accuracy in the collections and disbursements of all funds, and co-operation between all officers, trusts, and boards of the Convention; for which purpose it shall establish its own rules, and keep a record of its meeting, all of which shall be submitted annually to the Convention.

All accounts having to do with receipts, expenditures, and investments of all Church organizations, shall be audited at the close of the year by a certified public accountant: *Provided, however*, if the amount of the income for the year is less than \$3,000, or, if a certified public accountant is not available, the audit may be made by an accountant bookkeeper, who is in no way connected with the subject-matter of the account.

The fiscal year shall begin January 1st.

The expense, if there be any, of auditing the account of the Diocesan Treasurer by a certified public accountant shall be paid by the Treasurer out of the Episcopal and Contingent Fund, upon requisition by the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

SEC. 7.—*Committee on New Parishes.*—All applications for the admission of Parishes or Organized Missions into union with the Convention of the Diocese shall be referred to the Committee on New Parishes, whose duty it shall be to ascertain whether they conform to the requirements of the Canons; and on their report that such is the case, the Parish or Mission so applying may be received by vote of the Convention, and its delegates admitted to seats.

SEC. 8.—*Committee on Elections.*—It shall be the duty of the Committee on Elections to report to the Convention on all matters referred to them in regard to the claims of delegates to seats and votes in the same.

CANON IX.

Deputies to the General Convention.

At each Annual Convention there may, and at each Annual Convention immediately preceding the triennial session of the General Convention there shall, be elected four clerical and four lay deputies to the said General Convention, who shall be communicants of this Church and residents in the Diocese. There shall also be elected four alternate Clerical and four alternate Lay Deputies, subject to the same provisions as the Deputies above mentioned, who shall succeed to vacancies in the original deputation in the order of their election; and in this order the Secretary shall insert their names upon the Journal. Deputies elect to the General Convention, finding themselves unable to attend, shall, four weeks at least before the time of meeting, give notice to the first alternate of the same order. Should said alternate be unable to attend, he shall give immediate notice to the next upon the list of the same order with himself. Should either of said alternates receive two or more of such notices, he shall, according to the circumstances, transmit said notices to one or more of the alternates who follow him, and in the order in which they come.

CANON X.

Trustees of the Diocese.

SECTION 1. The Bishop, or, when there is no Bishop, the President of the Standing Committee, shall, *ex-officio*, with two laymen to be elected by the Convention, constitute a Board of Trustees for the Church in this Diocese, and shall be authorized to hold the property of the Diocese not otherwise provided for; they shall also have the power to convey the property of any organized Parish for whose use they hold the same, upon request in writing of the Vestry, if it shall seem advisable to them to do so. In the case of Missionary districts of the Diocese, they may convey property upon the recommendation of the Bishop and the Missionary in charge. In case of refusal to convey upon request made, they shall report the facts to the next Convention.

SEC. 2. The Trustees of the Diocese shall keep a record of their action with regard to all property, both real and personal, vested in them; and shall make a full report thereof annually to

the Convention, which report shall be published with the Journal of the Convention.

CANON XI.

Salaries, Compensations, Etc.

SEC. 1. The salary of the Bishop, of the Bishop Coadjutor, or the Suffragan Bishop, shall be such as may from time to time be ordered and provided for by the Convention.

SEC. 2. A Suffragan Bishop may be permitted to perform Episcopal duty in neighboring Dioceses upon such terms as may be agreed upon by the Bishop of this Diocese and the other Bishops in whose Dioceses the Suffragan Bishop performs such duty.

SEC. 3.—*Officers of the Convention, etc.*—The Secretary, the Treasurer, the clerical members of the Diocesan Convention, and the members of the Standing Committee of the Diocese, of the Finance Committee and of the Committee on Canons, in actual attendance upon the duly called meetings of the bodies to which they severally belong, shall be entitled to have their necessary expenses, incurred by such attendance, paid out of the funds of the Diocese; and the Treasurer of the Diocese is hereby directed to pay the same upon the personal application (by letter or otherwise) of said parties, accompanied by a certificate of the amount actually and necessarily expended in each instance. But no Clergyman who comes to the Convention after the first day of its session, or leaves before its adjournment, shall be entitled to the provisions of this section, without special action of the Convention.

CANON XII.

The Diocesan Assessment.

The assessments laid upon the Parishes and Missions for the support of the Episcopate and the current expenses of the Diocese, shall be paid in quarterly installments on or before the first days of July, October, January and April, in each year. And in case of the failure of any Parish or Mission to meet promptly the payment so required, it shall be the duty of the Treasurer to make a demand for the same.

CANON XIII.

Collections and Offerings.

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of every Clergyman of the Diocese to take an annual offering from every congregation served by him, for each of the objects named below, upon the day named in connection therewith, or upon some other Sunday in the same month, viz.:

Diocesan Theological Education Fund: The first Sunday in March.

American Church Building Fund: The first Sunday in October.

Thompson Orphanage and Training Institution: Thanksgiving Day.

Provided, That where it is not possible to take up a special offering for each of the above objects, or where the Budget System, or some similar system, is followed, an annual contribution for each of the above objects shall be considered to fulfill the conditions of this section.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the minister of each congregation in the Diocese to obtain, with the assistance of the laity, from every member of the same, if possible, an individual subscription, payable weekly (*a*) to Domestic and Foreign Missions, and (*b*) to the work of the Convocation to which the congregation belongs: *Provided*, that in congregations where it has been found impracticable to obtain weekly subscriptions, a quarterly collection for each object through the offertory at a Sunday service may be substituted therefor; and *Provided further*, that where the Budget System, or some similar system, is in use, it shall be considered that the provisions of this section are satisfied by remitting a contribution from such congregation quarterly to each of the above objects.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the Clergyman, or of some proper officer of each Parish, to remit promptly to the Treasurer of the Diocese, or other proper officer entitled to receive them, the amounts collected as herein provided.

CANON XIV.

Permanent Episcopal Fund.

There shall be established, to aid in the support of the Episco-

pate, a fund to be called the Permanent Episcopal Fund, to include all sums hitherto contributed specifically to that object, or which may hereafter be contributed, whereof the principal shall remain untouched, and only the interest be applied to the support of the Episcopate.

CANON XV.

Permanent Missionary Fund.

SECTION 1. When any funds shall be contributed or collected for a Permanent Missionary Fund, the amount shall be invested and only the interest thereof shall be applied to current missionary expenses.

SEC. 2. Any surplus which may remain from the amounts received for current missionary expenses, whether by interest upon the permanent fund aforesaid, by assessment or otherwise, after payment of such current missionary expenses, shall be added to the permanent fund aforesaid.

CANON XVI.

Unappropriated Funds.

All permanent and unappropriated funds belonging to the Diocese shall be invested by the Treasurer in safe securities, under the direction of the Trustees of the Diocese.

CANON XVII.

(Repealed by Convention 1921.)

CANON XVIII.

Convocations.

SECTION 1. The Missionary work of the Diocese shall be administered in three Convocations, to be known as the Convocation of Raleigh, for work among the white people in the eastern part of the Diocese; the Convocation of Charlotte, for work among the white people of the western part of the Diocese; and the Convocation of the Colored People, for work among the colored people of the whole Diocese—each Convocation to be under the charge of its own Archdeacon. The dividing line between the Convocations of Raleigh and Charlotte shall be fixed by the Bishop.

If, at any time, there be a Suffragan Bishop for work among the Negroes of the Diocese, such Suffragan, under the direction of the Bishop of the Diocese, shall be the official head of the Colored Convocation, and shall preside at all meetings of the same in the absence of the Bishop.

SEC. 2. There shall be a meeting of each Convocation at least once in each year at such time and place as shall be appointed by the Bishop, or by the Convocation at the next preceding meeting, and such meeting or meetings shall be attended by the Clergy residing or officiating, by two delegates from each congregation, and by the Treasurers of all Parishes and Missions situated, within the limits of the Convocation: said delegates to be elected in such way as the Vestry may determine, and where there is no Vestry, by the congregation. The Bishop, or, in his absence, the Archdeacon, shall preside at all meetings of the Convocation.

SEC. 3. Each Convocation shall have power to appoint all necessary officers, to prescribe their duties, to require from all its members reports of the work in which they are engaged, to raise funds for Missionary work, under the direction of the Bishop and the Archdeacon, and to take such action, not inconsistent with the Canons of the Diocese, as in the judgment of its members may be deemed expedient for the prosecution of Missionary work within its limits.

SEC. 4. Each Convocation shall make, in such manner as may seem best to it, an annual report to the Convention of the work of such Convocation for the year. Such report shall include the report of the Treasurer, with a statement of all receipts and disbursements, and shall also include a table of apportionments for the following year. The Treasurer's report shall be audited by a committee of the Convention, unless it is accompanied by a report of the Convocation showing that it has been audited and found correct.

SEC. 5. Each Convocation shall keep a record of its meetings in a book kept for that purpose.

SEC. 6. The financial year of each Convocation shall be the same as that of the Convention.

CANON XIX.

SECTION 1. The ministers and officers of all Missions, and of all Parishes supported wholly or in part by appropriations of

Missionary funds, whether Diocesan or General, shall make quarterly reports to the Archdeacons of their respective Convocations as to their work, and the contributions of such Missions and Parishes, in such form as the Bishop may prescribe.

SEC. 2. The Treasurer of each Mission and of each Parish whose Minister receives a Missionary stipend, shall report to the Archdeacon of his Convocation by the first day of April in each year the amount subscribed by such Mission or Parish for the salary of the Minister thereof and for Diocesan Missions for the current year; and when the amounts so subscribed by any congregation shall appear inadequate, or when no report has been made, the Archdeacon may, either in person or by deputy, make a canvass of such congregation for subscriptions for these two objects.

CANON XX.

Clergy Liable to Missionary Duty.

All Clergymen receiving aid from the Missionary funds of the Diocese shall be liable to perform regular Missionary duty, the sphere of which shall be fixed by the Bishop, and the amount of aid by the Bishop and Convocation.

CANON XXI.

Organization of Parishes.

In order to the organization of a new Parish, and its union with the Convention, it shall be necessary for any number of persons, including at least ten communicants, who intend to be supporters of the Parish—

First. To obtain the written consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority.

Second. If within the limits of some already existing Parish or Parishes, to obtain and present to the Convention the written consent of the Rector or Rectors of the Parish or Parishes.

Third. To assume a name and elect a Vestry.

Fourth. To subscribe and present to the Convention a certificate in the following words, viz.: "We, the undersigned, being adults, desirous to form ourselves into a Parish of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of North Carolina, do certify that we consent to be governed by the Constitution and Canons of

the Church, as set forth in the General Convention, and by the Constitution and Canons of the Church in this Diocese; that we have assumed the name of....., and have elected the following persons Vestrymen:.....; that we have the ability and that it is our purpose to employ and support a regular minister. It is also our purpose to provide and maintain a suitable house of worship and to bear our proportion of the expenses of the Church in this Diocese. In witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names, this.....day of....., in the year of our Lord.....” For the purpose of recording said subscription, as also for the purpose of receiving the subscriptions of subsequent voters, provided for by Article IX, Sec. 3, of the Constitution, a book shall be kept by the Vestry of each parish, and shall be present at the elections. Two or more contiguous congregations may combine to form a self-supporting Parish under the foregoing provisions.

CANON XXII.

SECTION 1. *Vestry*.—Upon the first Monday in Advent, unless some other day has been specified by the Vestry, each Parish shall annually elect by ballot, by the qualified voters from among the baptized male members of the Parish of the age of twenty-one years, in good moral standing, a Vestry of not less than three, nor more than twelve persons. But in the event, at any time, of an omission to elect, or of a refusal of the Vestry elect to serve, the Vestry last chosen shall hold over until another election shall be held.

But note, that any Parish having twenty or more male members of the age of twenty-one years may adopt the rotating Vestry system, and in such case shall elect one-third of the Vestry to serve for one year, one-third to serve for two years, and one-third to serve for three years, and thereafter shall annually elect, from among its qualified members who have not served on the Vestry during the past year, one-third of the Vestry, whose term of office shall be three years.

SEC. 2. *Wardens*.—Each Vestry shall annually elect a Senior, and a Junior Warden, being Communicants, from among their own number, the former upon nomination by the Rector. If there be no Rector, the election shall proceed without such nomination.

In case of a vacancy in the office of Warden, a successor shall be elected in the same manner.

SEC. 3. *Duties of Wardens.*—In the absence of the Rector, the Wardens shall preside in all meetings of the Vestry or congregation, in the order of their official seniority. As representatives of the Vestry, they shall (subject to its directions and in consistency with the rights of the Pastor,) have charge of the church building, and shall see that it be kept from all secular uses, and from all uses inconsistent with the doctrines or discipline of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and, so far as possible, in good repair, as becometh the house of God. They shall see that it be prepared for public worship, and that order be preserved during the same; that suitable books be provided for the service, vestments for the Clergy, and when necessary, the elements for the Holy Communion.

SEC. 4. *Treasurer.*—In the absence of any other appointment, the Junior Warden shall act as Treasurer of the Parish.

SEC. 5. *Vestry Meetings in Certain Cases.*—Should the Rector refuse to call a meeting of the Vestry, when, in the opinion of the Wardens or a majority of the Vestry, such a meeting would be of importance, it shall be competent to the Wardens, or any three of the Vestry, to call one: *Provided*, that the Rector shall have notice of the same.

CANON XXIII.

Call of a Pastor.

Where there is no Rector, the Wardens and Vestrymen shall have power to call a minister and to enter into all needful stipulations for his support. But if he prefer to rely upon the voluntary contributions of the people, he shall be entitled to do so; and the Vestry shall not have power to tax the sittings for that purpose without his consent. The Rector shall not have power to appoint a *permanent* assistant without the consent of the Vestry.

CANON XXIV.

Legal Powers of the Vestry.

SECTION 1. The Vestry shall be the Trustees of the Parish; shall have charge of all the secular concerns thereof; shall hold

the property belonging thereto, and shall be authorized to collect, invest or disburse its funds.

SEC. 2. Before any Vestry, or other Trustees of a Congregation or Parish, shall be authorized to sell, mortgage or otherwise convey or encumber any property held by them in trust for any Parish or Congregation, they shall obtain the written consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese.

CANON XXV.

Dissolution of Parishes.

In case of the dissolution of a Parish, the property belonging to the same shall vest in the Trustees of the Diocese, in trust for the interests of the Church in the said late Parish, and shall, upon the *bona fide* reorganization of said Parish, be reconveyed to the same.

CANON XXVI.

Registration, Reports, Etc.

SECTION 1. *Private and Parish Registers.*—It is hereby ordered that each Clergyman of this Church shall keep a register of all the baptisms, marriages, confirmations and burials solemnized by him, as well as of all the baptisms, marriages, confirmations and burials within his Parish or Cure, specifying the names of the persons in each instance; the parentage and date of birth of those baptized, with the names of their sponsors or witnesses, and the time when each rite is performed, which register shall be transcribed at least once in each month into a book to be kept for the purpose by the Vestry of the Parish.

SEC. 2. *Lists of Communicants, etc.*—It shall also be the duty of each Clergyman to keep a list of the communicants within his Cure, and, so far as practicable, of all the families and adult persons within the same, to remain for the use of his successor.

SEC. 3. *Parochial Reports.*—It shall be the duty of every Clergyman, at the beginning of January each year to prepare, upon the blank form adopted by the General Convention, a report for the year ending December 31st preceding, and deliver the same to the Bishop of the Diocese, on or before the 1st day of February. The report shall include the following information: the number of baptisms, confirmations, marriages and burials

among the people of his charge since the close of his last report; also such official acts as he may have performed within or without his Cure, specifying in the latter case the place where performed. He shall also report, so far as practicable, the number of baptized persons and the number of communicants within his Cure, with the number of children receiving religious instruction in Sunday-schools or Parochial schools; also the amount of contributions for Church purposes, as well as such other matters as may throw light on the state of the Parish. For the purpose of all financial and other reports, the Convention year shall begin on January 1st and end on December 31st.

SEC. 4. *Printing of Reports.*—The Parochial Reports, or such parts of the same as the Bishop may deem fit, shall be printed in the Journal of the Convention.

SEC. 5. *If there be no Pastor.*—In the case of a Parish without a Pastor, it shall be the duty of the Vestry to make the Parochial Report required by this Canon.

SEC. 6. *Communicants to be Reported.*—Every confirmed person, resident of the Parish, who has been admitted to the Holy Communion, and has not withdrawn nor been suspended, shall be reckoned a communicant for the purposes of this Canon.

But the Minister in charge of every congregation shall also report separately, for statistical purposes, as *Actual Communicants* the number of Communicants who, he has reason to believe, have not failed to receive the Holy Communion at least once in the last three years.

CANON XXVII.

Memorials.

No memorial shall hereafter be placed in any church without the consent both of the Rector or Minister in charge and of the Vestry. No memorial heretofore placed in any church, and none hereafter placed in accordance with this Canon, shall be altered or removed without the consent both of the Rector or Minister in charge, and of the Vestry: *Provided*, that when there is no Rector or Minister in charge, the consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, with that of the Vestry, shall suffice, and if there be no Vestry, the consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority, with that of the Minister in charge, must be obtained.

CANON XXVIII.

Missions.

SECTION 1. Any Mission outside the limits of an already existing Parish may be organized by the Bishop, at his discretion, on the application of residents in the neighborhood.

SEC. 2. The officers of an Organized Mission shall be a Warden, Treasurer and Clerk, two of the offices being held, if necessary, by one person.

SEC. 3. The Bishop shall appoint the above-named officers at the organization of the Mission, and thereafter on the first Monday in Advent of each year: *Provided*, that whenever the number of male communicants in said Mission shall be not less than five, said male communicants shall, annually, on the first Monday in Advent, unless some other day be appointed by the officers, elect from their own number the officers of the Mission; and in case they fail to do so, the Bishop may either appoint new officers, or allow the officers last chosen to continue until the first Monday in Advent next ensuing.

CANON XXIX.

Trial of Clergymen.

SECTION 1. *The Presentment.*—Any Clergyman shall be liable to presentment and trial for false doctrine, immorality, disorderly conduct, violation of the rubrics, of the Constitution or Canons of the Church of the United States, or of the Constitution or Canons of the Church of this Diocese.

Such presentment shall be made by the Vestry of the Parish in which said Clergyman has charge, or in which he resides, or by at least three male communicants of the Diocese, of full age, or by two or more Presbyters, who shall have been canonically resident therein for one year.

But no presentment shall be made in any case of any offense alleged to have been committed more than three years before the date of the presentment: *Provided*, that if the accused be convicted of the alleged offense in a civil court, presentment may still be made within one year after said conviction.

Said presentment shall be made to the Bishop, in *writing*, with the names of the presenters subscribed, and shall distinctly de-

clare, with all reasonable specification of time and circumstances, the nature of the offense or offenses with which the said Clergyman may be charged.

SEC. 2. *Public Rumor*.—But although no such presentment be made, if *public rumor* charge any Clergyman with the commission of any offenses above enumerated, the Bishop shall appoint two or more Presbyters to investigate the truth of such rumor; and if such investigation prove adverse to the Clergyman so charged, the said Presbyters shall make the presentment as above, according to the form and regulations there provided.

The presenters shall, in all cases, assume the responsibility of conducting the prosecution.

SEC. 3. *Service of Presentment—Constitution of Court*.—Should the Bishop be of opinion, from the nature of the charge or charges made, that the presentment contains sufficient grounds for proceeding to trial, he shall cause a copy thereof to be forthwith sent to the accused. He shall then give notice to the Standing Committee, who thereupon shall select *seven* Presbyters, actually and canonically resident in the Diocese, from whom the President of the Standing Committee shall, in writing, call upon the accused to elect *three*. But in case the accused refuse or neglect to make such election within ten days after due notice as aforesaid, the Standing Committee shall make the said election.

The three Presbyters so elected shall constitute a court for the trial of the accused; and shall have all powers necessary for the due conducting of the said trial.

SEC. 4. *Lay Assessor*.—The Bishop shall appoint a member of the legal profession, who shall also be a communicant of the Church, as *Assessor* to the Court, to advise the Court, *if requested*, upon all *questions of law* which may arise during the trial.

SEC. 5. *Time and Place of Trial and Notice Thereof*.—The Bishop shall appoint a time and place of trial, and shall give at least thirty days' notice of the same to the members of the *Court*, the *Assessor*, the *Presenters*, and the *Accused*; at which time and place the *Witnesses* also shall be notified to attend.

SEC. 6. *Assembling of Court and Record of Proceedings*.—The Court shall assemble at the time and place appointed, and shall proceed to examine fully the charges; and shall keep an accurate *record* of all their proceedings and of the evidence.

SEC. 7. *Nature of Evidence and How Given*.—No charge shall

be considered as established, unless proven by *two witnesses*, or by one witness and *corroborating circumstances*.

Testimony may be given orally before the Court, or in writing, upon interrogatories and cross-interrogatories, to be previously filed with the Secretary or Registrar of the Court. Any one or more of the witnesses may be examined on oath or affirmation, on the requisition of either party.

SEC. 8. *Decision of the Court and the Sentence*.—A *unanimous* vote of the Court on one or more of the charges, shall be necessary to the conviction of the accused; and if their decision be adverse to the accused they shall proceed to determine the kind and degree of punishment commensurate, in their opinion, with the offense or offenses committed. They shall transmit the record of their proceedings under their hands to the Bishop, who shall have power to affirm, modify, or set aside said judgment, and whose decision shall be final, except that he shall have no power to *increase* the punishment recommended by the Court.

SEC. 9. Suspension, or any heavier sentence, shall *ipso facto*, sever the connection of the Clergyman with his Parish.

SEC. 10. *The Record to be Filed*.—The record provided for in the sixth section of this Canon, together with the Bishop's sentence endorsed, shall be preserved among the papers of the Diocese.

SEC. 11. *Notices*.—For the purpose of any notice provided for by this Canon, it shall be sufficient to serve it either personally or by leaving a copy thereof at the last place of residence of the accused.

SEC. 12. *Confession of an Offense*.—When a Clergyman shall make confession to the Bishop of the commission of any of the offenses enumerated in the first section of this Canon, the Bishop shall proceed to inflict such ecclesiastical censure, or punishment, upon the Clergyman so confessing, as he (the Bishop) shall think right.

SEC. 13. *Renunciation of False Doctrine*.—In the case of any accusation of false doctrine, a *renunciation* of the same, to the satisfaction of the Bishop, shall stay all further proceedings.

CANON XXX.

Of the Church Pension Fund.

SECTION 1. In conformity with the resolutions adopted by

the General Convention of 1913, setting forth the principles upon which a pension system for the clergy of the Church and their dependents should be constructed, pursuant to which the corporation, the Church Pension Fund, has been created to carry these principles into effect, the Diocese of North Carolina hereby enters into the system of the Church Pension Fund.

SEC. 2. The Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese shall appoint, annually, a committee to be entitled the Committee on the Church Pension Fund, and to consist of one Clergyman and two Laymen. The duties of this Committee shall be as follows:

1. To furnish annually to the Church Pension Fund the canonical roll of the Clergy of this Diocese, and of the Clergy canonically belonging to other Dioceses or Missionary Districts who may be licensed to officiate in this Diocese, with a statement of the stipends received by each of said Clergymen from any Parish, Mission, or other ecclesiastical organization in this Diocese.

2. To receive from the Church Pension Fund annually a statement of the premiums necessary to be paid by each Parish, Mission, or other ecclesiastical organization in the Diocese, in order that the Clergymen in receipt of stipends from such Parishes, Missions, and other ecclesiastical organizations may be entitled respectively to pensions.

3. To inform the duly constituted authorities of each Parish, Mission, and other ecclesiastical organization in the Diocese of the premiums payable by it, and of the time and manner of payment thereof.

4. To elect a Treasurer who may or may not be a member of said Committee, who shall be required to give a bond satisfactory to the Committee, and whose duty it shall be to receive, quarterly, from all of the Parishes, Missions, and other ecclesiastical organizations in this Diocese the aforesaid premiums, and to transmit the same to the Treasurer of the Church Pension Fund.

5. To inform the Church Pension Fund from time to time of the clergy and the widows and minor orphans of clergy, canonically connected with this Diocese, who may be entitled to receive pensions from the Church Pension Fund.

6. In general, to inform the clergy and laity of the Diocese of the pension system created by the General Convention, and committed by it to the operation of the Church Pension Fund,

whereby the clergy of the Church are assured of pensions, as of right, to themselves in the event of old age, or disability, and to their widows and minor orphans in the event of death, and to do all things that may be necessary or advisable in the premises, to the end that the moneys necessary to be paid by the Parishes, Missions, and other ecclesiastical organizations may be fully and systematically paid.

SEC. III. 1. It shall be the duty of the Diocesan Pension Fund Committee to make all necessary arrangements with the Treasurer of the Diocese or the Finance Committee to provide for the annual payment to the Committee on the Church Pension Fund of the premiums payable on behalf of the Bishop of the Diocese, and also of the Bishop Coadjutor and the Bishop Suffragan, if there be such, and it shall be the duty of said Treasurer to pay said annual premiums to the Committee on the Church Pension Fund.

2. It shall also be the duty of the Diocesan Committee on the Church Pension Fund to make all necessary arrangements with the Executive Committees of the Convocations to provide for the annual payment to the Committee on the Church Pension Fund of the premiums payable on behalf of all clergymen receiving stipends from their respective Convocations.

3. It shall also be the duty of the Finance Committee to authorize the Treasurer of the Convention to pay, quarterly, to the said Committee on the Church Pension Fund the premiums payable on behalf of all other clergymen whose stipends are paid entirely or in part by the Diocese, and to make all necessary arrangements to provide for the cost of such premiums.

SEC. IV. It shall be the duty of the Convocations of the Diocese to pay, quarterly, to the said Committee on the Church Pension Fund the premiums payable on behalf of all clergymen receiving stipends from said Convocations.

SEC. V. It shall be the duty of every clergyman receiving a stipend or stipends, and the duty of every Parish, Mission, or other ecclesiastical organization in the Diocese paying a stipend or stipends, to furnish a statement of such stipend or stipends to the Committee on the Church Pension Fund whenever said Committee shall, in writing, ask for such statement.

SEC. VI. Any Parish or Mission neglecting for two successive years to pay the full amount of its annual premium shall be de-

prived of its right to participate and vote in the proceedings of the Convention of the Diocese, according to the Canons in that case made and provided, and shall continue so deprived until the said Parish or Mission has paid in full the said annual premiums for two successive years, when it shall be restored to all of its canonical rights in the Convention of the Diocese.

SEC. VII. This Canon shall go into effect when the Secretary of the Convention shall receive notification from the Church Pension Fund that such sufficient number of other Dioceses, Missionary Districts, and General Boards or other General Institutions of the Church have, by legislation, provided for entering into the pension system of the Church Pension Fund, as, in the opinion of the said Church Pension Fund, will enable the system to go into operation: *Provided*, that the clergy canonically connected with said Diocese or Missionary Districts, or whose stipends are wholly paid by said Boards or General Institutions of the Church, shall number not less than two thousand individuals.

CANON XXXI.

In accordance with the Canon of General Convention, Examining Chaplains shall be appointed and confirmed at each annual Convention. Their term of office shall be one year, and until their successors shall have been appointed.

Rules of Order

I. Order of Business.

FIRST DAY.

P. M.

1. Calling Roll.
2. A quorum being found present in accordance with Article V. of the Constitution the Presiding Officer shall declare the Convention duly organized.
3. Election of Secretary.
4. Appointment of Regular Committees.
5. Report of Standing Committee.
6. Report of Trustees of the Diocese.
7. Report of the Treasurer.
8. Report of the Committee on Finance.
9. Report of Trustees of St. Mary's School.
10. Report of Managers of Thompson Orphanage.
11. Report of Trustees of University of the South.
12. Report of Special Committees of Previous Convention.
13. Report of Archdeacons.
14. Appointment of Hours for Convention.
15. Nominations as in Rule of Order XVII.
Standing Committee.
Treasurer of the Diocese.
Deputies to General Convention.
Delegates to Provincial Synod.
Trustees University of South, Triennial. (After General Convention.)
Trustees of the General Theological Seminary, Triennial.
(After General Convention.)
Trustees of St. Mary's School, Triennial.
Managers of Thompson Orphanage, Biennial.
Trustees of the Diocese.
16. Memorials and Petitions.
17. Notices.
18. Recess.

SECOND DAY.

A. M.

1. Reading of Minutes.
2. Report of Committee on Elections.
3. Report of Committee on New Parishes.
4. Report of Committee on Unfinished Business.
5. The Bishop's Address.
6. Report of the Committee on Canons.
7. Report of Special Committees.
8. Miscellaneous Business.
9. Notices.
10. Recess.

P. M.

1. Miscellaneous Business.
2. Motions and Resolutions.
3. Elections by Ballot of
Standing Committee.
Treasurer of the Diocese.
Deputies to General Convention.
Delegates to Provincial Synod.
Trustees St. Mary's School.
Trustees of the University of the South.
Trustees of the General Theological Seminary.
Managers of Thompson Orphanage.
Trustees of the Diocese.
Nomination and Confirmation of Examining Chaplains.
4. Reports of Special Committees.
5. Report of Principal of St. Augustine's School.
6. Report of Committee on State of the Church.
7. Notices.
8. Recess.

NIGHT—MISSIONARY MEETING.

THIRD DAY.

A. M.

1. Reading of Minutes.
2. Report of Committee on Elections.
3. Report of Committee on Canons.

4. Report of Special Committees.
5. Report of Committee on Education.
6. Report of Committee on Work at Chapel Hill.
7. Report of Carolina Churchman.
8. Selection of Next Place of Meeting.
9. Motions and Resolutions.
10. Religious Services.
11. Adjournment.

II. Unless otherwise ordered, the Presiding Officer shall appoint all Committees.

III. After the President has taken the chair no member shall continue standing, except to address the Chair.

IV. Speakers shall address the Chair, and shall confine themselves to the point in debate.

V. No motion shall be considered unless seconded, and, if required, reduced to writing.

VI. When the President is putting any question, the members shall continue in their seats, and shall not hold any private discourse.

VII. When a question is under consideration, no motion shall be received, unless to lay upon the table, to postpone to a certain time, to postpone indefinitely, to commit, to amend, or to divide; and motions for any of these purposes shall have precedence in the order herein named. The motions to lay on the table and to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate; and of these the motion to adjourn shall take precedence.

VIII. If the question under debate contains several distinct propositions, the same shall be divided at the request of any member, and a vote taken separately, except that a motion to strike out and insert shall be indivisible.

IX. All amendments shall be considered in the order in which they are moved.

When a proposed amendment is under consideration, a motion to amend the same may be made. No after amendment to such second amendment shall be in order. But when an amendment to an amendment is under consideration, a substitute for the whole matter may be received. No proposition on a subject different from the one under consideration shall be received under color of a substitute.

X. In voting by orders, the names of the delegates from each

Parish shall be called, and each delegate shall vote either "Aye" or "No," and the majority of the votes of the delegates from a Parish shall determine the vote of such Parish. And it shall be the duty of the Secretary to record the names of the voters and the votes which they respectively give. But if the vote be unanimous, it shall suffice to record the number voting in each order; and unless the vote of a Parish be equally divided, it shall suffice to record the vote of the Parish and that of any dissenting delegate.

XI. A question once decided shall stand as the judgment of the Convention, and shall not be drawn again into debate. A motion to reconsider any vote shall not be in order, except on the same or succeeding day to that on which the vote is taken; *Provided, always*, that a vote or question may be reconsidered at any time by the consent of two-thirds of the Convention: *Provided, further*, that no motion to reconsider shall be made on the last day of the Convention, except on a vote or question originally taken on that day.

XII. The reports of all Committees shall be in writing, and shall be received of course, and without motion for acceptance, unless recommitted. All reports recommending or requiring any action or expression of opinion by the Convention shall be accompanied by a corresponding resolution.

XIII. All questions of order shall be decided by the chair without debate, but any member may appeal from such decision. And on such appeal no member shall speak more than once without leave.

XIV. No member shall be absent from the sessions of the Convention without leave, or unless he be unable to attend.

XV. When the Convention is about to rise, every member shall keep his seat until the President leaves the chair.

XVI. On motion duly put and carried, the Convention may resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, with or without closed doors, for the purpose of discussing such subjects as may be approved by the Convention.

The Bishop, with the Archdeacons, may select and announce subjects for discussion: *Provided*, that if the motion to go into a Committee of the Whole has specified the subject to be discussed, that subject shall first be disposed of.

XVII. Nominations *viva voce* for all offices not otherwise provided for shall be in order immediately after the appointment of

hours for Convention on the afternoon of the first day of the session; but written nominations also, signed with the name of the proposer, may be handed to the Secretary. All names of persons so nominated for members of the Standing Committee, Deputies, and Supplemental Deputies to the General Convention, or Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the Provincial Synod, shall be reported to the Convention by the Secretary on the afternoon of the second day's session in the form of a ticket on which they shall be printed in alphabetical order. After each list of nominations there shall be left as many blank spaces as there are persons to be elected. These blanks may be used by any voter. The voter shall mark an X opposite the name of each person for whom he votes. On the first ballot these tickets only shall be used, and also in all subsequent ballots except when otherwise ordered by the Convention. On the back of the ticket shall be printed the names of the present members of the Committee, Deputation, or Delegation to be elected. If under any particular head more names are marked than there are places to be filled under that head, that part of such ticket shall not be counted; but such mistakes shall not invalidate the vote under the other heads on that ticket. If there is a failure to elect all the persons necessary on the first ballot, another ballot may be taken in the same manner. After the Deputies to the General Convention, or Delegates to the Provincial Synod, have been elected, the Alternates shall be elected by ballot from those already nominated for Deputies or Delegates, and from such other names as may be proposed, using the printed ballot if convenient. The collection of the ballots shall be called for by the presiding officer at such time as he may see fit, but the business of the Convention shall proceed while the ballots are being made out, and while they are being counted by the tellers. The report of the tellers shall be in order at any time when ready.

